

**Call for applications for inclusion on lists of experts
for the evaluation of proposals received in connection with
specific research programmes**

1. With a view to achieving the aims of the proposal for the fifth framework programme of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities¹, the proposal for the fifth framework programme of the European Atomic Energy Community for research and training activities² and the proposals for Council Decisions concerning the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities in the implementation of the fifth framework programmes³, the Commission invites applications with a view to drawing up lists of experts to evaluate proposals received in response to calls made in connection with the specific research programmes implementing the above framework programmes.

One of the main aims of the fifth framework programmes is to give Community research a more strategic, leading role centred primarily on solving economic and social problems. An integrated approach towards research fields and projects financed is needed to solve complex multidisciplinary problems effectively.

2. The applicants selected by the Commission for inclusion in the panels of experts will help to evaluate proposals in line with the various scientific, technological and socio-economic aims - including international co-operation - set out in the documents referred to in point 1. Evaluation work includes making recommendations on ways to gear research towards optimum achievement of the aims of the specific programme concerned.

Applicants who are already on the lists of experts drawn up for the implementation of the fourth framework programme and who wish to participate in assessing proposals under the fifth framework programme must submit a fresh application.

3. Nationals of a Member State, a State associated with the framework programmes or a State with which the Commission has concluded a co-operation agreement in the field of science and technology are eligible to apply. Applications from nationals of other States are accepted but will only be used according to the needs of each specific programme.

Applicants must provide evidence of appropriate competence in the areas of activities set out in the proposals for the fifth framework programmes as indicated in the documents mentioned in point 1 and in the application form. They must also have a high level of professional experience in the public or private sector in one or more of the following areas or activities:

¹ Information available on <http://www.cordis.lu/fifth>.

² OJ No C 106, 6.4.1998, p.45.

³ OJ No C 262, 19.8.1998, p.50.

- a) research in the relevant scientific and technological fields;
- b) administration, management or evaluation of research and technological development projects;
- c) use of the results of research and technological development projects, transfer of technologies and innovation;
- d) international co-operation in science and technology;
- e) development of human capital.

The Commission will also take account of applicants' abilities to appreciate the challenges and industrial and/or socio-economic effects of research, in particular with regard to Community policies.

4. Applications must be submitted in accordance with the procedures set out below.

The application form includes a model *curriculum vitae* whose format must be complied with.

The application form is available from the following website address:

<http://www.cordis.lu/expert-candidature>

It is also available on request from:

European Commission
DG XII – SDME 5 / 20
200 rue de la Loi
B – 1049 Brussels

The application form must be completed in one of the official languages of the European Union.

Applications must be delivered:

- either by registered letter, with acknowledgement of receipt, to the following address:

European Commission
DG XII – SDME 5 / 20
200 rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels

- or by private courier service or by hand, in return for an acknowledgement of receipt, to the following address:

European Commission
DG XII – SDME 00 / 33
8 square de Meeûs
B-1050 Brussels

Envelopes must carry the following reference: "Call for applications for expert evaluators No ...".

Applications may also be submitted by e-mail. The date from which e-mail applications can be sent and the e-mail address will be given in the Official Journal of the European Communities and made known by any other appropriate means.

5. Every application received will be included in the list of potential experts drawn up for all the specific programmes on the basis of key words in the application form. This list can be used for compiling evaluation panels up to 30 September 2002.

The Commission will ensure that panels are set up in a balanced way and that there is appropriate rotation of experts. It will take account of applicants' geographical origin and professional background (industry and services, research and innovation, socio-economic users and sectors). The Commission also seeks the balanced participation of women and men.

Only applications received before 1 February 1999 will be considered for inclusion in the panels of experts to evaluate proposals received in response to the first call for proposals launched by each specific programme. Applications received after 1 February 1999 will be considered for the assessment of other calls for proposals.

The lists of experts chosen for the panels will be published in due course.

6. To ensure the independence of proposal evaluations, on conclusion of their contract the experts selected will have to sign a declaration certifying that there is

no conflict of interests between the work of the evaluation panel for which they are selected and the posts they occupy. Throughout the evaluation process they must demonstrate the appropriate devotion to duty and observe the confidentiality of the information and documents brought to their attention during the process.

7. Expert contracts may be signed either by the applicants selected or, in the event that they are employed by a legal entity, by an authorised representative of the entity. The applicants selected will be remunerated in accordance with the scale valid at the time of signature of the contract. Their travel and subsistence expenses will be reimbursed on the basis of the provisions in force within the Commission.